## AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

COMMITTEE MEETING

Before Gina L. Smith, Certified Court Reporter

At the Richmond County Board of Education

864 Broad Street, Augusta, Georgia

On November 9, 2011, Commencing at 6:00 p.m.

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1	APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL		
2			
3	Board of Elections:	Ms. Lynn Bailey	
3	Ad Hoc Reapportionment	Rep. Wayne Howard	
4	Committee Members:	Rep. Quincy Murphy	
		Sen. Hardie Davis	
5		Comm. Alvin Mason	
		Comm. Jerry Brigham	
6		Comm. Grady Smith	
7		Comm. Grady Smith Mr. Jack Padgett	
		Mr. Frank Dolan	
8			
9	Presenting Guest:	Ms. Linda Meggers	
1.0		Consultant	
10	7++ornov.	Mr. Wayne Brown	
11	Attorney:	Augusta Legal Department	
12		Mr. Pete Fletcher	
		Richmond County Board	
13		Of Education	
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1 AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING 2 [Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 9-11-28(d), Augusta West 3 Reporting has no contract with any of the parties or their counsel. The court reporter's charges are the 4 usual and customary charges for services within the 5 6 industry and are available upon request by either 7 party, with no financial or services discount being 8 given to any party named in this litigation. 9 MR. MASON: I'll go ahead and call the meeting to 10 order. This evening as far as the meeting protocol 11 we're going to kind of run it a little loose to some 12 degree because we do have some new maps, I quess, that 13 we're going to see and tonight will be an opportunity 14 for some discussion. I will say that the only person 15 that I've heard from is Ms. Cain who has an emergency going on right now, so she will not be here this 16 17 evening. It just--it just arose about an hour ago so we'll just keep her and that family in prayer. 18 19 MR. HOWARD: Representative Murphy is in route. 20 MR. MASON: Representative Murphy is in route. 21 Representative Sims is in route. MR. BRIGHAM: 22 Representative Sims is in route. And MR. MASON: 23 I would assume that Representative Davis should be 2.4 around--25 MR. PADGETT: You mean Senator.

- 1 MR. MASON: Yes. That would be the appropriate
- 2 title.
- 3 So from that standpoint, this is not a--this is a
- 4 public meeting but it's not a meeting for public input
- 5 at this particular time. I think we made some
- 6 discussion about whenever we get to a point of adopting
- 7 a plan that we would have one final--I call it a final,
- 8 but one meeting prior to moving forward through the
- 9 process. Before we go through the adoption of the
- 10 agenda, I just want to say at this particular point it
- 11 appears that we're going to look at not only plan 3 but
- 12 there's a plan 4, okay. I'm not even sure what all
- that entails and the folks that brought that on are not
- 14 here right now at this particular point. But we need
- 15 to move on.
- Here's what I will say, though, moving forward.
- 17 We're getting a little deep into the process and, you
- 18 know, that was somewhat anticipated potentially. We
- 19 were on a roll to some degree and we've had some other
- 20 discussions that have come up, which is fine. That's
- 21 part of the process. But I do want the Committee to be
- 22 cognizant of the time frame in which we are dealing
- 23 with and trying to understand that, one, we've got to
- 24 adopt a plan; two, we've got to have another meeting in
- 25 reference to that plan as far as the public is

- 1 concerned; and then we've got to move forward. So at
- 2 some point we're going to have to bring this thing to a
- 3 head and bring it to a vote. And I would hope that we
- 4 would get there sooner rather than later because the
- 5 time is rapidly moving. I know I've heard from a lot
- of committee members in terms of holidays coming up, in
- 7 terms of travel and family and various other
- 8 appointments and those sort of things, and we've got to
- 9 be cognizant of that as we move forward. So I would
- 10 just caution and ask the committee members to be very
- 11 diligent in terms of the time frame that we're dealing
- 12 with and trying to rectify this--the situation that we
- 13 find ourselves in as quickly as we possibly can,
- 14 insuring that we're being as proactive as we can in
- 15 this process.
- 16 Do any committee members have any concerns or
- 17 issues right now at this point before we even--Vice
- 18 Chairman.
- MR. PADGETT: Well, one of the issues that has
- 20 come up, and you mentioned there is possibly -- we are
- 21 looking at a third plan, possibly a fourth plan. The
- last meeting that we had, it was approved that any
- 23 plans that were being brought forward would be
- 24 forwarded to the committee members--would be forwarded
- 25 to the committee members before we had the actual

- 1 meeting and that has not happened, so it concerns me
- 2 that we are losing time because we're not able to look
- 3 at these plans before we sit down to try to approve
- 4 something on them.
- 5 MR. MASON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me
- 6 comment on that for a moment and if anyone else wishes
- 7 to do so they certainly can. You're absolutely right
- 8 from that standpoint in terms of what was talked about
- 9 at our last meeting. In between this process it was
- 10 also brought up that the precedent that we had set
- 11 prior to was--and in the maps that have been shown
- 12 previously have all been shown at the meeting and they
- 13 have not been shown ahead of time. And perhaps it may
- 14 have been unwise to change the precedent at that
- 15 particular time. But one thing I want to say, moving
- 16 forward, as we go through this process if we are to
- 17 vote on something in this arena here I want to be able
- 18 to stick to that unless we've had a consensus from the
- 19 committee members to do something different. I think
- 20 that's probably the more appropriate way to do it.
- 21 If--and can someone correct me. Did we actually take a
- 22 vote on that the last time?
- MS. BAILEY: There was no vote.
- MR. MASON: There was no vote, okay. So in
- 25 essence we are--we are not legally wrong, but there--I

- 1 think there was a consensus, I would say, of those that
- 2 were here that it would be done that way as I recall.
- 3 And so, you know, just to keep the meeting moving
- 4 smoothly as far as not to get off track, I would like
- 5 as much as possible that we can--and I most certainly
- from this point forward am going to enforce that as far
- 7 as the chair is concerned, to kind of keep us on track
- 8 and if there's something that we agree to as a
- 9 committee, I think we ought to honor that commitment.
- 10 Mr. Brigham.
- MR. BRIGHAM: Mr. Mason, and I agree with you. I
- 12 thought we had a consensus and I thought we were going
- 13 to receive a map. I didn't--I saw a lot of heads nod
- 14 yes. I don't know if there was a physical vote taken
- but I know it was a consensus of more than the majority
- 16 of this committee that we would have a map. And I
- would very much have liked to had one before I got
- 18 here.
- 19 The other thing that concerns me is when I get
- 20 here I hear there's a fourth map and I thought we had
- 21 consensus on drawing of all the maps up to this point.
- 22 I didn't--unless there was not consensus on a fourth
- 23 map, I don't know how we got a fourth map. Tonight was
- 24 the first time I've ever heard of a fourth map.
- MR. MASON: Mr. Padgett.

1 MR. PADGETT: Well, the consensus as far as 2 advising the committee members of this, we were in 3 discussion about posting this on the web page and we decided that was not a good idea so then I moved that 4 5 certainly we needed to have the committee members have, you know, availability of it. And I agree with Jerry, 6 7 the fourth map I haven't heard of. But the issue there and I don't think an official vote was taken, but I 8 9 don't think we've taken many official votes because I 10 made one motion and they said it wasn't time to start 11 making decisions, that we were just in discussion, so. 12 I agree that the heads nodded and said yes, we would 13 like to see that information. And I agree, perhaps we 14 didn't see the others but we pretty well knew what the 15 others were before we walked in, particularly plan 2. We advised the -- Ms. Meggers to basically -- the changes 16 17 that needed to be made and she made those changes. And that was plan 2 and, but otherwise. 18 19 MR. MASON: Thank you. Senator Davis. 20 MR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I concur with the 21 comments from Vice-chair Padgett as well as 22 Commissioner Brigham in that we've had a great deal of 23 conversation as it relates to the maps or at least what we have been anticipating tonight. We left our last 2.4 25 meeting with a number of things that were on the table.

1 One of those being that we were going to have a meeting 2 on last Thursday that that -- again, because of a series 3 of complications that none of us had any control over, we decided against having that meeting at that time. 4 5 It was at that meeting that we were in anticipation of receiving a proposal, and that third proposal was to 6 7 come from Ms. Meggers at that time who would not be in 8 attendance. As such, that proposal as I understand it 9 is in fact being brought forward on tonight. addition to that conversation, and it was stated at 10 11 that last meeting that there were some suggestions that 12 I had about a proposal. And we had talked about it 13 again as both of these distinguished gentleman have 14 indicated, heads bobbed, weaved, nodded, et cetera, 15 that there very well might be some things that we send 16 I think, again, as the chairman has indicated 17 and the wisdom of the chair in following protocol that has already been established as precedent, it was 18 19 decided against sending any information out as we have, 20 again, done consistently if we show maps, if we show data or anything, we do it at the point in time that 21 22 we're actually meeting and I concurred with that. 23 any discussion as it relates to a fourth proposal would 2.4 have been that data that I had indicated would be 25 brought forward. So that's what that data would in

fact be if we are to take a look at that tonight. 1 2 think it was prudent, and again, there was thoughts in 3 my head even as late as yesterday and this morning about simply withdrawing that and not even bringing 4 5 that forward. But to the -- to the committee's wisdom we had already talked about doing it and I thought it was 6 7 at least prudent to make it available no matter what action we take on it. 8 Thank you, Senator. I think clearly 9 MR. MASON: 10 there has been some heartburn with potentially the way 11 things have gone and I would say--I would really ask this committee moving forward that we really have to 12 13 get focused on the task at hand. Time is passing rapidly. I've mentioned before -- it recently came in 14 15 that holidays are approaching, family time, different things are going on and we've got four maps to look at 16 17 tonight. We've got at least another public meeting that has to happen and if we don't determine anything 18 19 here tonight, we're going to have to have another 20 meeting. It's extremely difficult. Everybody's 21 schedules is busy and everybody's time is extremely 22 valuable and there's no one's person time more valuable 23 than another and the public's time is valuable as well. So we--we've got a very short window to get this done 2.4

and don't want to cut off discussion and dialog.

25

We

- 1 need to have that. And just like tonight, we need to
- 2 be prepared to be here till--for however long it takes
- 3 for us to kind of--kind of weed this thing out. I'm
- 4 not necessarily saying it has to be a vote tonight, but
- 5 certainly that wouldn't hurt me at all if there was.
- 6 But what I am saying is, looking forward, let's make
- 7 sure we have a comprehensive view of this whole picture
- 8 in terms of the time frame that we have and the task
- 9 that we have at hand, so that we can do what is
- 10 necessary. And I don't want to belittle the importance
- of the duties that we've been assigned or we've
- 12 accepted as this committee for the next ten years. So
- 13 we're making decisions, we're not making them
- 14 arbitrarily but this is an extremely important event
- 15 that we're doing here. We want to dot I's and cross
- 16 I's and make sure that we're having the type of
- 17 discussion that we need to have, but at the same time,
- 18 as far as committee members, I think it's--I think it's
- 19 prudent to be the fair to the committee members because
- 20 our time is extremely valuable in terms of what we
- 21 agree to on this committee. Mr. Dolan.
- MR. DOLAN: Mr. Chairman, I personally am
- 23 unaware--we can have Ms. Meggers draw us up all an
- 24 individual map and if we do that we are never going to
- 25 get finished. I thought as a group we came together

- 1 and got the third map that Mr. Davis thought up and we
- 2 were going to kind of vote on those or at least mull
- 3 over 1, 2, and 3 and move forward. If we come up with
- 4 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, we're going to be here till
- 5 probably July like 2013 or thereabouts.
- 6 MR. MASON: Well, that--we can't do that and I
- 7 know exactly where you're going, and I don't disagree
- 8 with anything that you said. So I'm hoping, having put
- 9 the--Senator.
- 10 MR. DAVIS: At the appropriate time, and if you
- 11 would--
- MR. MASON: Yes.
- 13 MR. DAVIS: Let me talk about what is before us or
- 14 at least what I believe to be before us. In our last
- 15 meeting this committee gave direction that was
- 16 requested by Ms. Meggers and that was tell me what it
- 17 is you want me to do. At that time we indicated that
- 18 we would like for Ms. Meggers to go back and to draw a
- 19 proposal, that third proposal, which would take those
- 20 districts, which quite frankly were generally all of
- 21 them, that were 70 percent this, 80 percent that, and
- 22 come up with what I think the term that was used was
- 23 coin-tossed districts, districts that had 65 to 67
- 24 percent representation, while doing that making sure to
- 25 follow the established guidelines that have already

- 1 been voted on in the past by this same committee. That
- 2 was the direction that Ms. Meggers operated from and I
- 3 believe as we're going to find out tonight, based on
- 4 what I'm hearing, there is a map that will in fact
- 5 hopefully do that, which is the third proposal that is
- 6 out there. Again, that is what's out there. If--if we
- 7 find ourselves in a situation where we're pressed for
- 8 time, it may be the wisdom of this committee to simply
- 9 remove what would be the fourth proposal and simply
- 10 eliminate that from the discussion as well. And if we
- 11 find ourselves at that juncture, at the appropriate
- 12 time I'll be prepared to make a motion to do that and
- 13 let's not even spend any time on it.
- MR. MASON: All right, very good. At this point I
- would think that we need to go ahead and move on to the
- 16 business at hand. First and foremost, we need a motion
- for adoption of the agenda that we have here today.
- MR. LOCKETT: So move that the agenda be adopted
- 19 as printed.
- MR. DOLAN: Second.
- MR. MASON: We got a motion and second. Is there
- 22 any further discussion? Hearing none, committee
- 23 members will vote by the sign of yes.
- [In unison, all yes]
- MR. MASON: No's?

1 [No response.] 2 The yes has it unanimous. At this MR. MASON: 3 point before we go to Ms. Meggers I want to yield the floor to Ms. Linda Bailey to speak to a couple of 4 5 issues before we get started. It's all yours. MS. BAILEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yesterday I 6 was talking with one of the committee members and we 7 8 were looking at our online redistricting application 9 that's out there and this particular committee member 10 had no idea that we had the interactive mapping 11 available online, so I assumed that if one didn't know 12 it then possibly many of you didn't know it. It's a 13 great tool that I think you will find very helpful as 14 we move along through this process, so I want to take 15 just a moment to demonstrate that for you. This should be up on the screen in front of you. You recognize the 16 17 geography there as being that of Richmond County. Okay. One thing this application will do is anybody 18 19 can go in and enter any address and it will pinpoint 20 their address on the map. So as we get down the road it will be particularly helpful for people who are 21 22 trying to determine in which of the commission 23 districts they reside or school board districts they 2.4 They can pinpoint themselves on the map. 25 things stand right now, I'll just look at plan 2 real

- 1 fast and let's look at district 5 in plan 2. You can
- 2 see district 5 came up on the screen there. What it
- 3 will show you at a click, it will show you the areas
- 4 that were added to district 5, and the areas that were
- 5 removed from district 5. And likewise, you can do the
- 6 same thing with plan 1 or any other subsequent plans we
- 7 would place on the site. So I just wanted to take a
- 8 moment to let you know the availability of that. I
- 9 think it could be very useful to you if you need to do
- 10 some comparisons of the districts.
- MR. MASON: Thank you.
- MS. BAILEY: Thank you.
- MR. MASON: Let me say before we get to Linda, one
- of the things that we agreed to--well, we had talked
- 15 about, is our time line. And we stated at the time we
- 16 should strive to complete our work by around the first
- 17 week of December, and that was the latest, and then we
- 18 started talking about perhaps the second week in
- 19 November. But we're already--we're already there. So
- 20 I just want to draw that out there to ensure that we're
- 21 cognizant of the time, and I know I may sound
- 22 repetitive, but people have appointments, people can't
- 23 make dates, holidays coming up. There's any number of
- 24 things happening and we've got to be prepared to do
- 25 this business in a timely fashion. Having said that,

- 1 we're happy to have back in our midst Linda Meggers.
- 2 And at this point, if you would--the floor is yours.
- 3 Are we going to go through an explanation of incumbency
- 4 in future elections and then we'll have the
- 5 presentation of the proposed draft plans, and then from
- 6 that point or even during that point we'll have some
- 7 discussion as well as needed. Ms. Meggers, thank you.
- 8 MS. MEGGERS: You probably want to go ahead and
- 9 pull out the stat sheet for plan 3 and then have at
- 10 hand the--particularly the individual district maps
- 11 that Ms. Bailey has prepared that kind of shows you the
- 12 changes from the current plan. I think it will be
- 13 helpful as we go through it.
- To again restate or summarize what Senator Davis
- 15 said a few minutes ago, the charge, as I understood it
- 16 from the committee two weeks ago, was to draw a third
- 17 plan that would aim at that 65 percent as an average
- 18 number of total population for majority black school
- 19 board and commission districts and surely below 70
- 20 percent. And I think the statement was that--
- MR. MASON: Just to make sure we're on the same
- 22 sheet of music and everybody is--can you just repeat
- 23 again what it is that we should be looking at at this
- 24 point.
- MS. MEGGERS: Okay. You have a stat sheet that--

- 1 look for plan 3. I think that--
- 2 MR. MASON: And that's behind tab P. Is that the
- 3 one you're--.
- 4 MS. MEGGERS: P, uh-huh, yes. So that's where
- 5 your stat sheet is.
- 6 MS. BAILEY: It should be the first page behind
- 7 the tab P.
- 8 MS. MEGGERS: And then the one that says place
- 9 behind tab Q, those are those nice 11X17 maps that Lynn
- 10 does that has each of the individual districts shaded
- 11 so that you can see the changes.
- MR. MASON: Check. Got it. Thank you.
- 13 MS. MEGGERS: So with the idea of -- of not having
- 14 the intense numbers over 70 percent total black
- 15 population in those districts to get those below 70
- 16 with the idea of aiming around 65. And to also then
- 17 maintain the previous idea that we kept incumbents, the
- 18 present incumbents, in the current districts. So
- 19 you'll see district--plan 3 accomplishes that. You'll
- 20 see that all of the incumbents are in their present
- 21 district. The--all of the total black population for
- 22 the districts are below 70 percent, although for
- 23 district 5, the best I could do with the other criteria
- of incumbency was to get that at 69.73, but it is below
- 25 70 but not quite as low as Senator Davis had suggested.

- 1 But they're much better than--from that standpoint then
- 2 than plan 2. So let's go district by district.
- 3 MR. MASON: Linda, just one second. Senator
- 4 Davis.
- 5 MR. DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want
- 6 to again, for the record, bring a point of
- 7 clarification, that the request was to bring all
- 8 districts regardless of whether they were represented
- 9 by an African-American candidate or Caucasian, all
- 10 districts. My contention was that no districts needed
- 11 to be 70 percent or 80 percent anything. Just a point
- 12 of clarification.
- 13 MS. MEGGERS: I'm sorry. I probably worded it
- 14 badly. I apologize. Well, all of a sudden something
- 15 has disappeared. Bear with me just a second. I don't
- 16 think I've ever seen this happen. This will give you a
- 17 couple of seconds to look over your maps and stats for
- 18 a second. Okay. There we go.
- Okay. So district 1, the difference here is that
- 20 I went up into district 7 and picked up precinct 702.
- 21 Then you can see the black. The black line again is
- 22 the current district boundaries. So this is the change
- 23 to the northeast, et cetera, of the county to pull in
- 24 702. And then that minimized what I took out of
- 25 district 2, which was basically precinct 205. And then

- 1 I took away precinct 101. So those are your three
- 2 changes. And what that did for district 1 was the
- 3 deviation is a minus 1.70 and the new black percentage,
- 4 it's just a slight change from plan 2. Plan 2 that was
- 5 66.41; in this proposed plan 3 it's 64.69.
- 6 Then district 2 picks up precinct 602 at the
- 7 bottom from district 6. This one change right here
- 8 where you see the hand, that's that one that we talked
- 9 about previously which is getting it off the old city
- 10 limits line. There's no population. One thing I do
- 11 want to comment on is that, number one, even though you
- 12 can look at that and see some very great similarities
- in some of the areas to plan 2, I went back and I
- 14 started from your current plan and as I worked through
- 15 that, though, knowing some of the issues from the
- 16 public hearing, I tried to bear those in mind and keep
- 17 a long that. So you're going to see some similarities
- in the two plans as we work through. So the district 2
- 19 goes down and picks up two precincts from 6, 602 and
- 20 606. It had already lost 205 to district 1 and it
- 21 picks up precinct 101 from district 1. So then the
- 22 changes from that where it had been 74 and a half
- 23 percent in plan 2, it drops to a total of 68 percent
- 24 total black.
- District 3, you're going to see very similar lines

- 1 in that, again, I took out the Fort Gordon precincts
- 2 and kept it in district 5 as you'll see, which is
- 3 comparable to district -- with plan 2. But the big
- 4 change was that I took away precincts 306 and it's
- 5 going to move into district 7 and it picks up precinct
- 6 309 from--it loses precinct 309 which will move to
- 7 district 5 and comes down here and picks up precinct
- 8 504 from district 5. So you can see--and it also picks
- 9 up a precinct from district 7. It picks up 701, which
- 10 you can see the incumbents, et cetera. Now, that
- 11 changes district 3 where it had been at 43.30 percent
- 12 total black population. That increases that one
- 13 slightly to 45.08 percent.
- 14 The district 4 picks up population over here from
- 15 district 6. It's precinct 601. It gives up precinct
- 16 404 and then along this line it's exactly the same over
- 17 here. But you'll notice this is the Sand Ridge.
- 18 Instead of splitting that, that is now entirely.
- 19 There's no--I didn't have to go in there and just get
- 20 part of that. That whole precinct now is moved into
- 21 district 4. And the numbers from that district. This
- 22 has the biggest swing in total black population. It
- went from 76.95 on plan 2 to a 66.64 on this plan.
- District 5 here in the middle. Of course, we've
- 25 already talked about the fact that it lost one precinct

- 1 to district 3 right here. It picks up one from
- 2 district 3. It makes this change over here that we had
- 3 done earlier and reaches out and picks up that one
- 4 precinct out of Fort Gordon. And it drops off precinct
- 5 501 which is going to move to district 6. Now, this
- 6 district then changes from 72.52 down to 69.73. And
- 7 that one I worked with for quite a while in various
- 8 directions trying to get that number even lower. But
- 9 every which way I can go with that one, it's still
- 10 another heavily populated black residential area and to
- 11 change any of this right now I'd have to move away from
- 12 the rule of incumbency. You know, it's--I don't mean
- 13 rule. There was a guideline. It's not a rule. Okay.
- 14 District 5.
- District 6 changed pretty drastically. It, as I
- 16 said earlier, drops off precinct 601 to district 4. It
- 17 picks up these two precincts from 4, dropped off this
- 18 area. So this is going to be a pretty--and it does
- 19 come out of the Goshen area. This does put the whole
- 20 Goshen area back together so that's not an issue
- 21 anymore. And so then district 6 goes from 52.99 to
- 22 67.64 percent.
- District 7 is the one that, you know, previously
- 24 because it was within deviation range we had not really
- 25 changed it. We had already taken the one precinct 702

- 1 and moved it to 1. It comes down here, as I said
- 2 previously, and picks up precinct 306 from district 3
- 3 and drops precinct 701. So those numbers--it's a very
- 4 slight change but they go up. It was--on plan 2 it was
- 5 29.07 percent total black and now it will be 33.36
- 6 percent total black.
- 7 And then district 8, remember it was a district
- 8 that was over. Instead of taking district 805 and
- 9 giving it to district 6, which balanced it perfectly,
- 10 we've just swapped that over and we've taken precinct
- 11 807 and moved it into district 4 which is that Sand
- 12 Ridge area. And it had a slight change. It went
- from--actually it was 32.28 percent total black
- 14 population and it goes down to 30.96. Now, I've kept
- 15 the same combination for the superdistricts that you
- 16 currently have as far as the combination. You'll see
- 17 that with your stat sheet. And this one also still
- 18 splits the Fort Gordon area into three. It divides
- 19 that area evenly amongst three different
- 20 commission/school board districts.
- 21 Are there any questions on this one?
- MR. MASON: Senator Davis.
- MR. DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Meggers,
- 24 talk or speak to the issue of Fort Gordon when you say
- 25 it's evenly split amongst three commissions/school

1 board districts. What are you referring to when you 2 say that? 3 MS. MEGGERS: Okay. In a local plan it doesn't have the quite the impact if we're talking about a 4 5 congressional plan, a state senate or even a legislative district. But on a local plan when you 6 7 have 12,000 people and they're all eligible to vote, 8 every single one of them could register and vote. 9 of them choose not to so we have a very small number of voters at Fort Gordon. And a lot of them, even if they 10 11 registered to vote this coming year, two years from now 12 they've been sent someplace else. That's just the 13 nature of being in the military. So to put all of them in a single commission district kind of I think raises 14 15 questions of one person, one vote for that commissioner and school board because they have so much less folks 16 17 that they have to represent or fewer voters and then it puts more predominantly or proportionateley more voters 18 19 and population in the other commission districts and school board districts. So in order to even out that 20 effect, we traditionally split those among, you know, 21 22 two or three commission districts. And it's not just 23 in Richmond County. For example, in Athens, Clarke County, we have University of Georgia because it's 2.4 25 similar. There is even more population involved there

- 1 and we split those among three commission/school board
- 2 districts. So--and we've done the same thing with
- 3 military bases in like Fort Stewart in Liberty County
- 4 and the same thing with Muscogee with Fort Benning. So
- 5 that's what I mean that we've divided that up so that
- 6 the population impact of having such a large number of
- 7 people that traditionally do not register to vote in
- 8 Richmond County that is evenly spread among two or
- 9 three districts.
- MR. MASON: Linda, let me see if I understand this
- 11 correctly. We had a -- according to my notes, we had a
- 12 situation with Goshen which had become split. And
- under this plan it brings them back together?
- MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir, it does.
- MR. MASON: We had a situation with Sand Ridge
- 16 which was split, and under this plan it brings it back
- 17 together?
- 18 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir.
- MR. MASON: We had a situation over at Sue
- 20 Reynolds, I believe it was, a gentleman addressed very
- 21 adequately the population issue. And this addresses
- 22 that in terms of somewhere between in the 60 percent in
- 23 terms of African-American vote?
- MS. MEGGERS: Yes.
- MR. MASON: Okay. Mr. Lockett.

- 1 MR. LOCKETT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms.
- 2 Meggers, I think this also answered the question they
- 3 had in district 3.
- 4 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, it does. It--in fact, it's the
- 5 same line in that area as we had on plan 2 with those
- 6 folks that testified before the public hearing in that
- 7 area. It resolves those.
- 8 The one thing that this plan does do that, you
- 9 know, I don't know all the areas and the neighborhoods,
- 10 but I was particularly I quess sensitive because Ms.
- 11 Cain's comments to me on the plan 1 of what I had done
- 12 with this Tobacco Road area. I think I have again
- 13 split that area pretty badly.
- MR. MASON: I see that.
- MS. MEGGERS: I don't see a way around it unless
- 16 you give me some flexibility about the numbers between
- 17 4 and 6.
- Also, this plan as it stands splits 4 precincts.
- 19 It could split only 3 if I put--precinct 606 is split
- 20 now between district 6 and 2. It can be restored and
- 21 be entirely in district 6 but that would raise the
- deviation in that district to a plus 4.38, which as it
- 23 stands on the plan, your deviation range is a minus
- 24 2.82 to a plus 2.13, which is an overall deviation of
- 25 4.95. And the average deviation per district is 1.53.

- 1 MR. MASON: Mr. Dolan.
- 2 MR. DOLAN: Mr. Chairman. And, Ms. Meggers, I
- 3 want to congratulate for an enormous amount of work I'm
- 4 sure it took you to draw this map. But I would like to
- 5 air out a concern I have just looking at it as a blush.
- 6 It looks like the worst case of gerrymandering I've
- 7 ever seen in recent times. And I think just for the
- 8 fact that we lower ten percent of the black population
- 9 in five precincts, this is going to create awful
- 10 confusion in my opinion. I'm not a political expert by
- any stretch of the imagination, but this shakes the bag
- 12 up pretty good, and I don't see what we gain. There's
- 13 still five black population precincts versus--there's
- 14 just ten percentage points different and it doesn't--
- and it just makes a big mess if you ask me.
- 16 MR. PADGETT: If you actually--excuse me.
- 17 MR. MASON: Are you finished?
- 18 MR. DOLAN: Yes.
- 19 MR. PADGETT: It actually gives you six plus one.
- 20 You would have six--well, actually five plus the large
- 21 district that would be predominantly, and of course,
- 22 that district being spoken of is my district and it has
- 23 kind of chopped it up, yeah.
- MR. DOLAN: It's still the other way, the same
- 25 way.

Page 27 1 MR. PADGETT: No, no. 2 Look. Look at your plan 2. MR. DOLAN: 3 MR. MASON: Well--4 MR. DOLAN: It's the same. 5 MR. MASON: --all plans have six majority black districts. 6 The--7 MR. PADGETT: But to go from 50 to 60. 8 The question becomes, what is the MR. MASON: 9 percentage. And that was the question that was raised 10 at the Sue Reynolds because if it's -- if your 60 percent 11 or if there's numbers--say, you're 58/60 percent, 12 whatever that is, that was part of the question that 13 was raised, a valid question that was raised, in terms of--in terms of the numbers that we see here. 14 15 just want to make that clarification that it didn't go from 5 to 6. It was already at 6. 16 17 MR. DOLAN: Okay. 18 MR. MASON: But you were at 52 percent and now 19 you're considerably higher than that and some areas are 20 considerably lower, so. 21 With an opportunity for big confusion MR. DOLAN: 22 here. MR. MASON: Well, I think this whole thing is 23 2.4 opportunity. Yes.

Ms. Meggers, can we look at the at-

25

MR. BRIGHAM:

- 1 large districts. Can you show me how many people have
- 2 changed from one at-large district to another at-large
- 3 district.
- 4 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir.
- 5 MR. BRIGHAM: And I wonder how much of the
- 6 population that is, because I think that's going to
- 7 cause more confusion than anything else.
- 8 MR. MASON: In which way do you mean more
- 9 confusion?
- 10 MR. BRIGHAM: Well, I think just based on what--
- 11 not having looked at it real close but I would think
- 12 there was a good size percentage that have changed of
- 13 the population that have moved from one at-large
- 14 district to another at-large district. And I think
- 15 that's going to create more confusion in voters' minds
- 16 than anything else.
- MR. MASON: Can you bring that up, Ms. Meggers?
- 18 Do you understand the comment?
- MS. MEGGERS: Uh-huh.
- MR. MASON: Great.
- 21 MS. MEGGERS: Let me just add on the superdistrict
- 22 lines for you.
- MR. MASON: And while you're doing that, Ms.
- 24 Meggers, is it my understanding that the incumbents in
- 25 this plan remain in the current districts that they are

- 1 in now?
- 2 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir. That's correct. Can you
- 3 see those color differentiations? I can change it for
- 4 you, because this was just a working thing for me to do
- 5 the stats. Let me change. Okay. The red line is the
- 6 existing superdistrict boundaries. I don't have the
- 7 numbers. I'd have to go in and calculate those for
- 8 you, which can be done. But you can see that probably
- 9 it's not as drastic as you might have thought it was
- 10 going to be for the superdistrict. You've got this one
- 11 precinct here from district 7 that would move. We've
- 12 got these areas here, the Fort Gordon precinct. You've
- 13 got this area here that's the Sand Ridge and then
- 14 you've got these two precincts. So it's more drastic
- between 4 and 6 than it is any place else in the plan
- 16 as far as the people moving. The rest of it is not as
- 17 drastic.
- 18 MR. BRIGHAM: I'd still like to see some numbers
- 19 eventually.
- MS. MEGGERS: Okay. I'd be more than happy to do
- 21 those for you.
- MR. MASON: Okay. Let me kind of go back to Mr.
- 23 Dolan's comment because I need some clarification.
- 24 When you say it's the worst case of gerrymandering, can
- 25 you kind of explain what you mean by that?

- 1 MR. DOLAN: Yeah, I'd be glad to. Can we see the
- 2 third map?
- 3 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir.
- 4 MR. DOLAN: She talked about one way that--one
- 5 thing--her goal was to go down main roads. When you
- 6 see this pink section 5, it loops all around, and 2,
- 7 the little blue district. It's just not clean. Can
- 8 you put plan 2 up?
- 9 MS. MEGGERS: Okay. You want me to put the plan 2
- 10 lines over on top of this one?
- MR. DOLAN: Yeah, that'd be good.
- MS. MEGGERS: Just a second here.
- MR. DOLAN: It just seems a lot cleaner.
- 14 MS. MEGGERS: Those--the red lines are plan 2 and
- 15 these colored areas are plan 3. So red is what is 2;
- 16 the shaded areas are plan 3.
- 17 MR. DOLAN: It's hard to see. It just looks
- 18 cleaner with the--down here at number 6, for example.
- 19 I don't know if that's 4 or 6. It must be 4. When 4
- 20 and 6 are together, that's--that's not. It's just all
- 21 chopped up.
- MS. MEGGERS: 4 and 6 are where the most drastic
- 23 changes are.
- MR. DOLAN: The third plan is all over the place.
- 25 And 3, I mean you're squeezing that little passageway

- 1 there, kind of blossoming out of both sides of it. I
- 2 mean I think 1 looks pretty good if you just look at
- 3 it. It's like nobody goes down a road and picks up
- 4 four houses. 7 is clean; 8 is clean. That's just a
- 5 first blush look.
- 6 MR. MASON: Senator Davis.
- 7 MR. DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Meggers,
- 8 in looking at this proposal, you indicated just a
- 9 moment ago and this is something that Commissioner
- 10 Brigham is talking about as well. You indicated that
- in this proposal it splits four precincts currently, in
- 12 proposal 3, but if there were some slight changes I
- 13 guess between 4 and 6 you would end up splitting only 3
- 14 precincts.
- 15 MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir.
- 16 MR. DAVIS: Okay.
- MS. MEGGERS: And one of those precinct splits is
- 18 over here where we had done some work that resolved
- 19 this area. That was on plan 2 and I just went ahead
- 20 and incorporated that same change, which helped me keep
- 21 Fort Gordon, et cetera, so.
- MR. DAVIS: How significant--I guess what I'm
- 23 trying to understand from a numbers perspective is what
- 24 does that look like going from four precincts being
- 25 split to three precincts being split? What does that

- 1 look like?
- 2 MS. BAILEY: It increases the deviation, too.
- 3 MS. MEGGERS: Oh, it--it--I'm sorry. I commented
- 4 that in district 6 if I restore precinct 606 entirely
- 5 back into district 6 it raises the deviation to 4.38.
- 6 It doesn't really appreciably change the minority
- 7 population percentages. It basically is just a one
- 8 person, one vote number. So--but it would be the first
- 9 time on any of the plans that we've considered that we
- 10 went over 2 point something percent. But it does stay
- 11 under the 5 percent, but it would be a decision the
- 12 committee would have to make about precinct lines.
- MR. DAVIS: But it does not affect, generally
- 14 speaking, the percentage at all?
- MS. MEGGERS: No. It stays just about the same.
- 16 It's not a big difference on that. It's just one
- 17 person-that precinct is split strictly for one person,
- 18 one vote.
- MR. MASON: Representative Murphy.
- MR. MURPHY: Ms. Meggers, if we were to revise the
- 21 plan and we began to put precincts back together, what
- 22 criteria would you use to do that, because there are
- 23 some persons in the community that's concerned about
- 24 putting precinct 310 completely together.
- MS. MEGGERS: We can look at the numbers. Are you

- 1 talking about on this--well, on this plan it is totally
- 2 together in plan 3. Are you talking about going back
- 3 to plan 2 and trying to restore that one little
- 4 section? It's not very many people in that one. A
- 5 larger deviation on plan 2 might restore that one in
- 6 plan 2. I can't remember. I'd have to go back and--
- 7 oh, you know what, in plan 2--see this line right here.
- 8 I need that section and there's not very many folks
- 9 right there and it's a different kind of part of the
- 10 community than the remainder, but I need that in order
- 11 to keep this precinct here in district 5 for
- 12 population. So that's why that precinct is split.
- 13 It's to keep this area intact in district 5 on plan 2.
- 14 Is that what you're asking me, sir?
- 15 MR. MURPHY: Yes.
- MS. MEGGERS: So it's a question of contiguity,
- 17 not one person, one vote so much.
- 18 MR. MASON: Senator Davis.
- MR. DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to
- 20 ask a question in reference to that, Ms. Meggers, about
- 21 contiguity. Is it defined that in order to maintain
- 22 contiguity the superdistricts have to--the districts
- 23 that make up the superdistricts have to touch?
- MS. MEGGERS: I think that would depend--you could
- 25 define that however you wanted to in the fact that

- 1 there is no rule that governs that. You could leave
- 2 them as they are and they'd be non-contiguous. That
- 3 would be a decision for the committee to make, but
- 4 there's no law that's mandating for the superdistricts
- 5 to be contiguous. It's something that people feel
- 6 better about and in their minds they think it ought to
- 7 be contiguous but there's no mandate that they be.
- 8 MR. MASON: Lynn, can we hear from you on this.
- 9 MS. BAILEY: Yes. I was just going to add to that
- 10 discussion that the charter of the City of Augusta
- 11 actually does define what makes up each of the those
- 12 superdistricts and it does specify in that charter
- which single member districts make up the particular
- 14 superdistrict. Now, as to the definition as to whether
- or not those districts have to touch, you know, I'm not
- 16 sure other than it seems that by definition the
- 17 districts have to be contiguous. And if districts 9
- and 10 are termed as districts, then it would seem that
- 19 every portion of those have to touch. But maybe that's
- 20 something that we need further research on.
- MR. MASON: Wayne or Pete, do you have any idea at
- 22 this point?
- MR. FLETCHER: I don't.
- MS. MEGGERS: Many times you'll see the charter or
- 25 guidelines that define that, which would govern it.

- 1 Like in the legislature when they adopt the committee
- 2 guidelines they talk about contiguity. I don't know
- 3 what the charter says about it.
- 4 MR. MASON: Wayne.
- 5 MR. BROWN: I want to reserve my opinion, but I
- 6 can tell you--I want to reserve my opinion, my final
- 7 opinion, but I can tell you the main emphasis in the
- 8 charter is telling the content of the superdistricts.
- 9 I have not noticed, but I will go back and look at it.
- 10 I have not noticed any requirement that they touch.
- 11 It's just remove--if you remove districts out of the
- 12 superdistricts it's going to require a charter
- 13 amendment.
- MR. MASON: Lynn, are you--or whomever is
- 15 annotating I guess actions to be taken, that would
- 16 certainly qualify as one.
- MS. BAILEY: Yes, sir, we'll look at that.
- 18 MR. MASON: Thank you. Mr. Brigham.
- MR. BRIGHAM: On this touching, I thought all
- 20 districts had to be contiquous. I'm not a lawyer and
- 21 I'm looking to the two lawyers to help me on this, but
- 22 I don't think--I don't think that you can represent--if
- 23 I move out of my district I have to resign. If I'm not
- 24 in a contiguous district I represent a person over here
- 25 and Mr. Smith is in the superdistrict, somewhere in

- 1 between we have Savannah River and then I represent
- 2 somebody on the other side of the river or we can say
- 3 Gordon Highway or whatever, some kind of physical
- 4 extreme. I think that -- I thought we ran into a problem
- 5 with that once before with the school board districts,
- 6 Pete, back in the '80's.
- 7 MS. MEGGERS: One thing that Mr. Brown might want
- 8 to research, and I don't know that it's applicable. I
- 9 don't know the way the charter was done for
- 10 consolidation. For cities, there's something in the
- 11 Georgia code that governs municipal redistricting that
- 12 requires that city districts be contiguous. I don't
- 13 know whether that applies here or not, but it does
- 14 apply to--you know. Are y'all chartered as a city or
- 15 the county or is it a hybrid? You know, I'm not quite
- 16 sure about that and that's something that Mr. Brown
- 17 would have to answer. But just normally cities have to
- 18 have their districts be contiguous by writ of the
- 19 Georgia code for municipals.
- MR. MASON: Pete, you were going to say something
- 21 or were you?
- MR. FLETCHER: Well, we've got the -- we've got the
- 23 same issue the City does. It takes a local amendment,
- 24 you know, to change that with us. That's still not
- 25 answering the question you asked us to research but

- 1 we'd be in the same boat with them as to what the
- 2 charter says.
- MR. MASON: Lynn or Linda rather, under this
- 4 proposed map 3 is that an issue that we have here?
- 5 MS. MEGGERS: No. It's no issue. I've maintained
- 6 the same--they're contiguous. It's not an issue on
- 7 this one.
- 8 MR. MASON: Thank you. Mr. Dolan.
- 9 MR. DOLAN: Why are we going down this road--
- MR. MASON: Well, it's discussion.
- MR. DOLAN: --about the contiguous ten--I mean how
- 12 often do we split the superdistricts.
- 13 MR. MASON: Yeah.
- MR. DOLAN: I don't see the--what we are trying to
- 15 even--
- MR. MASON: Because it's not an issue on this map.
- 17 MR. DOLAN: It's not an issue--
- 18 MR. MASON: --or on any of the maps for that
- 19 matter. So I'm not sure--
- MR. DOLAN: What if a bomb blows up tomorrow?
- 21 MR. DAVIS: Well, if a bomb blows up tomorrow I
- 22 will call 1-800-555-1212 and get the SWAT team here. I
- 23 asked that question in light of just the thought in my
- 24 mind and as it relates to the charter I believe in
- 25 section 342, it talks about that. And as it defines a

- 1 superdistrict it only speaks to what districts comprise
- 2 a superdistrict. That is what it speaks to. That is
- 3 why I asked that question. The issue of contiguity was
- 4 again just for future thought as we're going through
- 5 this process. But, again, superdistricts are in fact
- 6 defined in the charter as we have them listed and as
- 7 you well noted, Ms. Meggers, this map satisfies that.
- 8 MR. MASON: Gentleman, any further action on this
- 9 particular item? Hearing none, I guess we'll move on.
- 10 What's next?
- MS. MEGGERS: Plan 4?
- MR. MASON: Before we move off of plan 3 is there
- 13 any other actions that anyone sees or wants addressed
- 14 at this particular time before we--before we move off
- of plan 3? Any other actions that any committee
- 16 members want to see addressed at this time? Mr.
- 17 Padgett.
- MR. PADGETT: Very obviously the purpose behind
- 19 the redrawing was to make my district, district 6, a
- 20 heavy minority district rather than a balanced district
- 21 with 52.9 percent of the people in that district being
- 22 minority and 52.9 percent of the population being the
- 23 exact same. So it flip-flops this. And the whole
- 24 issue there is as you look at this, it's very obviously
- 25 the predominantly majority white districts were taken

- 1 out with one exception, of course, district 601 is
- 2 probably a split. But then it takes me all the way out
- 3 into the county area that abuts these other districts.
- 4 And I noticed in district 9 by taking these districts
- 5 out of 501, 401 and 404 and giving them to me, it puts
- 6 Ms. Cain on the line to be inside the district, I think
- 7 just probably across the street from where the line is
- 8 being drawn. And, you know, I understand why it's
- 9 being done and, you know, I think we're looking at the
- 10 smokescreens about getting the minority districts down
- 11 under the 75/78 percent. And, of course, I guess what
- we would be doing by this ten years from now, we would
- 13 be looking at having to protect district 6 as a
- 14 minority district, because it's going to be 65 percent.
- 15 So, obviously the intent of this plan 3 does exactly
- 16 that. I had supposed that it probably would do more
- damage than this, but it looks like I took the full
- 18 hit.
- 19 MR. MASON: Senator Davis.
- 20 MR. DAVIS: Back to your point, Mr. Chairman. I
- 21 don't think I'm supposed to speak to that. You weren't
- 22 asking me about that.
- The charge that was given, again, to Ms. Meggers
- last week or the week prior when we last met was to
- 25 create coin-tossed districts, at least that's what I

- 1 understood it to be. And that was for all eight 2 districts that we have in the community with the noted 3 concerns that were raised where Goshen is concerned, where Sand Ridge is concerned, and the issues that were 4 5 raised at the third town hall meeting. And as I 6 understand it, that was the whole premise behind that. There were no nefarious deeds associated with it, but 7 8 rather that was the whole premise behind it as I 9 understood it. Having said that, again, I think, as I 10 have said earlier, that my request, our request as a 11 committee, was for Ms. Meggers to do that. I also 12 indicated at the previous meeting that I would in turn 13 provide data to correspondingly attempt to do the same 14 thing that we had asked Ms. Meggers. If it is in the 15 wisdom of the committee for me to withdraw proposal 4 16 and we simply bring this meeting to some place that we 17 can talk and have further discussion with the next agenda items, I am prepared to do that if it's in the 18 19 wisdom of the committee to do that. If that is not what the wisdom of the committee is then I'll certainly 20
- MR. MASON: Does anyone want to--Mr. Lockett.

be prepared that we speak to it.

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- MR. LOCKETT: Mr. Chairman, if it's permissible, I
- 24 would like to make a motion that we withdraw this plan
- 25 and deal with the existing plans that we've talked

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- 1 about.
- 2 MR. MASON: We have a motion on the table.
- 3 MR. DOLAN: Second.
- 4 MR. MASON: We've got a second. Is there any
- 5 further discussion?
- 6 MR. MURPHY: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.
- 7 MR. MASON: Mr. Murphy.
- 8 MR. MURPHY: For the benefit of all of us, it
- 9 won't hurt us to just take a look at the information.
- MR. MASON: We've got a motion on the floor, we
- 11 have to dispose of that. Are you making a substitute
- 12 motion or something?
- MR. MURPHY: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. I move that
- 14 we at least have an opportunity to review the plan 4.
- 15 MR. MASON: We have a substitute motion. Is there
- 16 a second?
- 17 MR. SMITH: Second.
- 18 MR. MASON: We have a substitute motion and a
- 19 second. The substitute motion, by parliamentary
- 20 procedure must be voted on first. At this time we will
- 21 vote on the substitute motion reviewing plan 4, I guess
- 22 we're calling this?
- MS. MEGGERS: Yes, sir.
- MR. MASON: Plan 4. All in favor, show of hands.
- 25 Is your hand up Mr. Dolan? Well, either way, if I'm

- 1 seeing five hands, that's going to take it. Is that
- 2 what I'm seeing?
- 3 MR. BRIGHAM: Yeah.
- 4 MR. MASON: Obviously, we've got nine people
- 5 sitting here, five hands is going to take that. Plan
- 6 4. Mr. Brown.
- 7 MR. BROWN: It may become relevant shortly, as to
- 8 Augusta's charter, the charter does not distinguish as
- 9 a need for continuity of the districts. It
- 10 identifies--distinguishes between the regular districts
- 11 and the superdistricts. The charter sees the districts
- 12 as ten districts and require--and the requirement that
- 13 they touch exists as to all ten districts.
- 14 MR. MASON: And that's--because you say you're
- 15 reserving opinion, but now--
- 16 MR. BROWN: I have the charter with me.
- MR. MASON: Oh, so you have the charter with you.
- 18 So now this is your official opinion.
- 19 MR. BROWN: Yes, sir.
- MR. MASON: Based on the charter. Let the record
- 21 reflect that. Any questions in reference to the
- 22 official opinion of our legal? Mr. Brigham.
- MR. BRIGHAM: Chairman, I believe the charter also
- 24 says we will follow the municipal election code. And
- 25 if I remember that correctly, Ms. Meggers said that the

- 1 municipal election code also requires contiguous
- 2 touching districts.
- 3 MS. MEGGERS: I was not referring to the election
- 4 code. There is a part of the Georgia code as I
- 5 remember it that deals with cities redistricting
- 6 themselves and it sets out guidelines and one of those
- 7 is contiguity. It would be a different section. It
- 8 would not be in the election code.
- 9 MR. BRIGHAM: That's under the City election code,
- 10 right?
- 11 MR. MASON: I'm going to defer to legal. I mean--
- MR. BROWN: The charter says that Augusta will
- 13 function as a municipal form of government.
- MR. BRIGHAM: I think it plainly says we'll follow
- 15 the municipal election plan.
- 16 MR. MASON: And you have the charter in front of
- 17 you.
- MR. BROWN: Yes, I have the charter in front of
- 19 me. It says that while the County reserves some powers
- of a county and some powers of a city, it will function
- 21 as a municipal form of government. In certain
- 22 instances Augusta does assume, say, for liability
- 23 purposes it functions as a county, but generally, it's
- 24 a municipal form of government.
- MR. MASON: Thank you.

1 There is ongoing research and there's MR. BROWN: 2 also a referral by the election board to the attorney 3 general as to how a consolidated government will function in terms of election dates, et cetera, based 4 5 upon the last legislation. So that's -- that's pending. 6 MR. MASON: Ms. Meggers. 7 MS. MEGGERS: Okay. There--among some of the 8 districts as you look at them you're going to see some 9 similarities. They--two different folks looking at 10 data and ideas kind of arrived at the same idea on a 11 couple of the districts so you'll see some similarity. 12 The--this plan, let me just give you the summary before 13 we get into the details. The deviation range for this 14 one is a minus 1.15 to a plus 1.01, which gives you an 15 overall deviation range of 2.16 which is very, very good. And the average deviation per district is .67 16 17 percent, probably the best of all the plans we've looked at from a deviation standpoint. The -- one thing 18 19 as you look the plan that you will see is that in this 20 one Fort Gordon is entirely in one district, in district 4. So it is not--as far as the most 21 22 redistricted as the other plans have been. 23 Okay. So let's look at--district 1 just is plan 3 comes up and picks up precinct 702 and picks up maybe 2.4 25 the exact same precinct as 205. It's very similar to

- 1 what plan 3 does. And in this one where district 1 on
- 2 the plan 2 was 66.41, on this one it goes up--comes
- 3 down just slightly 65.11, which is just a little bit
- 4 higher than on plan 3.
- 5 District 2 comes down and picks up first of all
- 6 quite a bit of district 6. It picks up about half of
- 7 precinct 602 and all of 606. It then to balance
- 8 population picks up one precinct from district 5--well,
- 9 actually a part of--of--it loses a part of precinct
- 10 202. That becomes split between 2 and 5. And then it
- 11 goes out here and picks up another precinct from 505--I
- mean from district 5, which is 507. And then maintains
- 13 the rest of the core of that district. Also, again in
- 14 this plan all the incumbents are maintained in their
- 15 present districts just as they are in plan 3, so that's
- 16 another similarity between the two plans. Okay. So
- 17 that takes district 2 where it had been at a 74.41 on
- 18 district 2, it brings it down to 64.63 on this plan so
- 19 it more evens out that concentration.
- District 3 drops off this Fort Gordon precinct,
- 21 just as plans 2 and 3 does. It comes up and it
- 22 maintains as Mr. Murphy as noted, it keeps all of 310
- 23 together and it picks up precinct--but it does drop off
- 24 309 down to district 5. And it loses--it picks up also
- 25 precinct 504. So you can see, it goes up here into

- 1 district 7 and picks up this precinct which I think is
- 2 where--in fact, I think district 7 on both plans are
- 3 exactly the same. So district 3 on--in fact, the
- 4 numbers are exactly the same on district 3. It was--on
- 5 plan 2 district 3 was 43.30, on plan 3 it was 45.08 and
- 6 stayed the same on plan 4. So I think district 3 is
- 7 just about the same on both plans. It's very similar.
- 8 District 4 is one that has just major changes in
- 9 that it picks up all of Fort Gordon. It does have the
- 10 Sand Ridge, but it loses all of what I think is all the
- 11 Tobacco Road community. Part of it goes to district 6
- 12 and part of it goes to district 5. This was the
- precinct originally on plan 1 that I had moved to 5
- 14 that we had to move back because Ms. Cain was so set
- 15 that would just destroy that community representation
- 16 there. So this is pretty drastic, again, probably the
- 17 most drastically changed district in this particular
- 18 plan is probably district 4. That takes it from--on
- 19 plan 2 that was at 76.95. It brings it down to 63.88.
- District 6 again is--let's see. That was 4. 5
- 21 got covered in talking about the other ones. You can
- see 5 goes from plan 2 being 72.52. On this plan it's
- 23 74.03. So it's the one district in plan 4 that does
- 24 not go below 70 percent.
- 25 The district 6, again, is impacted pretty

- 1 dramatically. It loses precinct 604 and comes out here
- 2 in--wait a minute. Let me get my lines right here. 6
- 3 basically moves further to the--to the west here. It
- 4 drops off 604 and drops off 602, 606. Picks up 401,
- 5 which makes a dramatic change. And it keeps that. So
- 6 district 6 on this plan goes from 52.99 on plan 2 to
- 7 67.62. And although the lines are different, the
- 8 numbers don't look exactly the same within two
- 9 hundredths of a point from plan 3 to plan 4.
- District 7 is exactly as I mentioned. District 7
- is the same on both plans. So, again, you've got going
- 12 from 29.07 to a 33.36.
- District 8 is down here at the bottom. It changes
- 14 because it loses Fort Gordon totally and it goes up and
- 15 picks up this large precinct out of district 6. And it
- 16 changes from a 32.28 to a 33.11, which stays about the
- same as on plan 2 where plan 3 went to a 30.96.
- Now, let's talk about the superdistricts here. If
- 19 you'll notice on your stat sheet there are no stats on
- 20 the sheet for districts 9 and 10. That's because I
- 21 needed--it's not contiguous and I can do the numbers if
- 22 they're shown--I mean do it by the numbers they have,
- 23 but you can see that--I can't remember which district
- 24 it is. Let me--but you can see, you got this portion
- 25 here and then the rest of it is down here and you've

- 1 got this district running through the middle. Now,
- 2 that can be cured by rearranging--for contiguity you
- 3 can rearrange how you combine the single member
- 4 districts into the superdistricts. And, you know, you
- 5 have to amend the charter to do that as part of the
- 6 legislation for this. But so that's where this
- 7 contiguity question becomes important of how you want
- 8 to address it on the superdistrict. I mean it can be
- 9 addressed, it's just that I needed to know what the
- 10 committee wanted to do if they were going forward with
- 11 this plan.
- MR. MASON: Okay. Let me--and I'm going to get to
- 13 Mr. Lockett and then Senator Davis here. But let me be
- 14 the first to voice my vehement opposition to any plan,
- not just this plan, but any plan that encompasses all
- of Fort Gordon into one district, period. When we
- 17 talked about having somewhere between eight and ten
- 18 thousand population with about 600 registered voters or
- 19 so, that absolutely creates a burden on any district if
- 20 it's--if one district encompasses Fort Gordon. So I'm
- 21 just going to go on record now and say I'm vehemently
- 22 opposed to any plan that has Fort Gordon going into one
- 23 district. And I think you'd be doing a disservice to
- 24 any district, it just happened to be district 4. But I
- 25 would think it would be doing a disservice to any

- 1 district that had all of Fort Gordon in there. And I
- 2 think what we kept in place by splitting it pretty much
- 3 evenly along three districts so that there wouldn't be
- 4 that burden absorbed by any one district has been
- 5 prudent and I would hope that we would follow that.
- 6 Commissioner Lockett.
- 7 MR. LOCKETT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You just
- 8 indicated the point I wanted to make. And I fully
- 9 support what you said. Thank you.
- 10 MR. MASON: Senator Davis.
- 11 MR. DAVIS: I feel you just took me to the wood
- 12 shed. I'm just cutting up. I wanted to again go
- over--Mr. Dolan had indicated this earlier. So my
- questions a moment ago were for this very reason as I
- 15 looked at this over the last hours in terms of this
- 16 proposal. And I'm aware of the fact that it would
- 17 require, quote, reconfiguring the superdistricts, if
- 18 you will. I'm aware of that fact. And, of course, the
- 19 issue that has been brought to light as it relates to
- 20 Fort Gordon and the importance of that. And those are
- 21 things that I'm certainly sensitive to as well. And
- 22 so, again, the wisdom of this committee, I'm certainly
- 23 going to agree with some of these points that we have
- 24 here today.
- MR. MASON: Representative Murphy.

- 1 MR. MURPHY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Isn't it
- 2 not true that some of us had not seen plan 4 and that
- 3 our only desire was just to take a look at it.
- 4 MR. MASON: Absolutely.
- 5 MR. MURPHY: Someone has spent all their precious
- 6 time trying to put it together so. I agree with what
- 7 all of you just mentioned but I thought it was
- 8 important that we at least have an opportunity to look
- 9 at it.
- MR. MASON: Absolutely. Mr. Lockett.
- 11 MR. LOCKETT: I think--Representative Murphy, I
- 12 concur with you. The only reason I made the motion I
- 13 did was for the sake of time and I saw a plan that as
- 14 far as I was concerned, you know, was acceptable. I
- 15 thought it was a good plan and that's why I said that.
- 16 It wasn't I was trying to chew anybody out. And,
- 17 Senator Davis, I wasn't trying to come down on you
- 18 either.
- 19 MR. MASON: Point well taken. Commissioner
- 20 Brigham.
- 21 MR. BRIGHAM: Chairman, while I voted to look at
- 22 plan 4, I did see it. But I would make a motion that
- 23 we do not consider plan 4.
- MR. DOLAN: Second.
- 25 MR. MASON: We have a motion and second on the

- 1 table. Is there any further discussion? Hearing none,
- 2 committee members will vote by the sign of yes if you
- 3 are in favor.
- 4 [Committee responds with yes.]
- 5 MR. MASON: If you oppose, no.
- 6 MR. DOLAN: Did we make progress?
- 7 MR. MASON: We made some progress. 4 is off the
- 8 table. Okay. Committee members, I'm looking for some
- 9 quidance. We have three plans on the table. We've
- 10 seen plan 1 and 2, now we've seen plan 3. We've got
- 11 some action for plan 3. Is there any action that
- 12 anyone feels needs to be taken on plan 1 that we
- 13 previously viewed?
- Hearing none, is there any action on plan 2 that
- 15 needs to be taken? Mr. Dolan.
- MR. DOLAN: I'd like to keep plan 2. Personally I
- 17 think it's the best plan going.
- 18 MR. MASON: Is there any--
- 19 MR. DOLAN: --vote it out.
- 20 MR. MASON: I don't think--
- MR. BRIGHAM: Mr. Chairman, I don't think we want
- 22 to vote any of them out at this point. I think--
- MR. MASON: Well, why don't we--
- MR. BRIGHAM: I think we really need to study them
- 25 a little closer because most of us, this is first

- 1 glimpse that we've had.
- 2 MR. MASON: Right. And then maybe I need to clear
- 3 up what I meant by action. I'm talking about action
- 4 items for Lynn or Linda to go back and do anything
- 5 with, because I didn't think anyone was prepared to
- 6 accept a plan tonight. So maybe I better say that
- 7 again. Is there any action that we need Lynn Bailey or
- 8 Linda Meggers to take as it relates to plan 1?
- 9 Representative Howard.
- MR. HOWARD: I don't see any action to be taken,
- 11 just what Mr. Brigham just said, but I think Ms.
- 12 Meggers has done what we've asked her to do and we need
- 13 time to maybe go back and look at the streets and
- 14 things and come back and the public will have an
- 15 opportunity. I'm sure Ms. Bailey will probably put
- this on the website and the public can see it and maybe
- invite comments, you know, for the public to make
- 18 comments through the website as well. And be prepared
- 19 to come back at the next meeting to take action.
- 20 MR. MASON: Okay. So just under the interest of
- 21 fairness, let me kind of finish that. No action on 1.
- 22 Is there any action that needs to be taken on 2?
- MR. DOLAN: I have a question on 2.
- MR. MASON: Yes.
- MR. DOLAN: I think, if I'm not mistaken, in plan

- 1 2 the biggest rub of irritation that could be from the
- 2 community is splitting Tobacco Road. Is that correct?
- MR. MASON: Not on plan 2. We're good on plan 2.
- 4 MR. DOLAN: On plan 2?
- 5 MR. MASON: Yes. I think on plan 2 there was
- 6 still a issue with Goshen.
- 7 MR. DOLAN: With Goshen.
- 8 MR. MASON: Yes.
- 9 MS. BAILEY: If I may, plan 1 was the original
- 10 plan, of course, and it did have the split in the Sand
- 11 Ridge area and the splits out in the Jimmy
- 12 Dyess/Wrightsboro Road area. Plan 2 remedied those
- 13 situations. So as the committee members contemplate
- 14 where they want to spend their energy, while plan 1 has
- 15 certainly not been dismissed, I was under the
- 16 impression, more or less, that plan 2 was in fact a
- 17 revision in a good way of plan 1. If that makes sense.
- MR. MASON: Makes sense. Is there any—we talked
- 19 about an action that needs to happen--I think it was
- 20 maybe a couple of actions that need to happen on plan
- 21 3. Representative Murphy.
- MR. MURPHY: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. I move that
- 23 we eliminate plan 1 since it captured a couple of major
- 24 concerns that we had.
- MR. MASON: We have a motion to eliminate plan 1.

- 1 Is there a second?
- 2 MR. LOCKETT: Second.
- 3 MR. MASON: We've got a motion and a second. Is
- 4 there any further discussion? Hearing none, for those
- 5 that want to eliminate plan 1 show by raising of hands
- 6 if you're in favor. Do we have somebody to count
- 7 there?
- 8 MR. BRIGHAM: 6.
- 9 MR. MASON: 6. If you're opposed. We've got one.
- 10 If you're abstaining, if you're just not going to raise
- 11 your hand. Okay. So that passes. 1 is eliminated.
- 12 So now we have plans 2 and plan 3 to be looked at.
- 13 Let's get a plan of action or course of action
- 14 moving forward on those two particular plans. Is it
- 15 this committee's understanding then that those plans
- 16 are going to be placed, what--well, we already have
- 17 them here for us. But are they going to be placed up
- on the website or something like that? Is that what
- 19 your intent is?
- MS. BAILEY: Yes. We should have the PDF, the PDF
- 21 map that you have in your materials, those should be
- 22 posted out to the website as early as tomorrow. The
- 23 interactive layer takes a couple of more days to
- 24 process but hopefully--today is Wednesday. Maybe by
- 25 Friday or maybe Monday we will have the interactive

- 1 layer out there as well. But certainly the PDF and the
- 2 statistics will be available on the website, yes.
- 3 MR. MASON: Can we agree from a committee
- 4 perspective that moving forward from this point
- 5 forward, if there is an action that a committee member
- 6 would like to see taken in regard to either one of
- 7 those maps, that that be forwarded to Lynn and Lynn
- 8 send those requested actions out to all committee
- 9 members so that we don't come back in like we did
- 10 tonight? Is that--
- 11 MR. DOLAN: Second.
- MR. DAVIS: Is that a motion on the floor?
- MR. MASON: I'm looking for one. I can put it out
- 14 there.
- 15 MR. DOLAN: I make a motion to do what he said.
- MR. MASON: Okay. We've got a motion on the
- 17 table.
- 18 MR. DAVIS: Second.
- MR. MASON: Second. Is there any further
- 20 discussion. Hearing none, will committee members
- 21 vote--excuse me. Point of clarification.
- MR. HOWARD: I just want to make sure everybody
- 23 understands what we're trying to do here is to make
- 24 sure that we don't have to come back to the next
- 25 meeting and--

- 1 MR. BRIGHAM: Uninformed.
- 2 MR. MASON: Uninformed. Right. From this point
- 3 where we are and we've agreed to 2 and 3, I think will
- 4 be prudent if there is any changes that anyone wants to
- 5 make or any actions that need to be taken, for that to
- 6 be sent to Lynn Bailey and Lynn will ensure that each
- 7 and every one of us get it pronto and that we have an
- 8 opportunity, fair opportunity, to look at it and
- 9 discuss it or whatever the case may be. No?
- 10 MR. BRIGHAM: I have a question.
- 11 MR. MASON: Oh, absolutely.
- MR. BRIGHAM: I'm guessing what--where we're going
- is we're going to say we want to just choose between
- 14 maps 2 and 3. Is--
- MR. MASON: Well, we've already knocked out 1 by
- 16 vote.
- MR. BRIGHAM: Yeah, I understand that one. But my
- 18 question is, is there going to be more maps. Is it
- 19 possible that we include this to where we--while we are
- 20 getting the information that's being requested that new
- 21 maps also be disseminated to us where we don't have to
- 22 come in here blind like we did tonight.
- MR. MASON: Now, when you say new maps, in the
- words of Mr. Dolan over here, having 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- 25 maps floating around out there, is that a direction

- 1 that we want to go? I mean, you know--
- 2 MR. MURPHY: We'll be here till July 23rd.
- 3 MR. DOLAN: I said July of 2013.
- 4 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, do we have a motion on
- 5 the floor?
- 6 MR. DOLAN: Yes.
- 7 MR. MASON: We do, and I asked was there further
- 8 discussion and we're in the discussion part of that.
- 9 Senator Davis.
- 10 MR. DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do want
- 11 to--I think it's important to do this. Ms. Meggers, as
- 12 well as our staff, Lynn Bailey and her staff, have done
- 13 a fantastic job and I want to make certain that we
- 14 acknowledge that in that all of the work on the maps
- 15 that has been done thus been far has been exceptional.
- 16 And to suggest that we've arrived today and we were in
- 17 the dark, I think mars the good work that they've been
- doing because the protocol has always been that we come
- 19 to the meeting and we have that information that has
- 20 been worked on, presented to us at that time. And I
- 21 just to state for the record that this has been a
- 22 yeoman's job on the part of Ms. Meggers as well as Ms.
- 23 Bailey. And it's following protocol we've come to the
- 24 meetings with an expectation that there's going to be
- 25 something new that we look at, and I think that we've

- 1 done that again tonight.
- 2 MR. MASON: Thank you. And I appreciate those
- 3 comments. Let me say this before I call on Mr.
- 4 Lockett. I think now where we're at, the point that
- 5 we're at today, and how we've been able to move
- forward, I think we're now at a point where we've
- 7 reduced the number of maps that are floating out there.
- 8 We have two maps that we have strong consideration
- 9 about that may need some tweaking or whatever and
- 10 that's what we're going to do now at this point. Now I
- 11 think we're at a point to where we don't wait until we
- 12 come in because we've been able to narrow down. And
- one of the things I want to--I prefaced this whole
- 14 meeting with was looking clearly at our time line and
- our task. So having said that, as you see, we're
- 16 missing three members here tonight. We don't know who
- we're going to be missing next time and next time and
- 18 so forth. So we've got to kind of, you know, wrap this
- 19 up. And I think we're doing our due diligence but I
- 20 think that little extra bit of time for review and
- 21 discussion would be good for this committee. Mr.
- 22 Lockett.
- MR. LOCKETT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Point of
- 24 privilege. I just want to let you all know that I'm
- 25 the one that recommended Ms. Meggers, having not seen

- 1 her before, but she has the reputation. So I want you
- 2 to know that I'm a good judge of character and you all
- 3 owe me some credit.
- 4 MR. MASON: Mr. Brigham.
- 5 MR. BRIGHAM: I've never questioned the fact that
- 6 Ms. Meggers and Ms. Bailey provided excellent work and
- 7 without my insistence of helping some people understand
- 8 that we were making a recommendation and not trying to
- 9 appoint somebody, I don't think we would have even made
- 10 that first vote. But besides that, I think it's
- important that if we're going to have technical
- 12 changes, that we not only we get the information that
- 13 we can see what these changes in these maps are going
- 14 to look like before we get here. And I think that's
- 15 where I'm coming from. I thought it was a overall
- 16 function of the last committee meeting that we were
- 17 going to receive information about the maps. And I
- 18 thought that was a motion and a vote, but evidently I
- 19 was wrong. But I--
- MR. MASON: But unfortunately a motion wasn't put
- in but we've got it on the table now. We haven't voted
- 22 on it yet. Mr. Dolan.
- MR. DOLAN: If you vote yes for this next vote,
- 24 exactly what you just described will happen.
- MR. MASON: Absolutely. Are we prepared to vote?

- 1 Any further discussion? What are we voting on?
- 2 MR. DOLAN: That you will disseminate all the
- 3 information before we get here.
- 4 MR. MASON: Absolutely.
- 5 MR. MURPHY: Did we carry the motion by
- 6 eliminating map 1?
- 7 MR. MASON: We did. We carried that one. All
- 8 those in favor with a yes, raise their hand. All those
- 9 opposed, raise their hand.
- 10 Ms. Meggers, did you have anything else for us
- 11 tonight?
- MS. MEGGERS: No, sir.
- MR. MASON: Ms. Bailey.
- MS. BAILEY: No. I think I'm straight. We'll get
- 15 those plans on the website. Any comments as you study
- 16 those plans, if there are suggested changes, if I
- 17 understand things correctly, if there are suggested
- 18 changes, they'll come to me, to Linda. Linda will look
- 19 at those. If she can figure out a way to make those
- 20 changes happen, she will and if she can't, she'll make
- 21 note of it and move on to the next one. Is that pretty
- 22 much how we'll proceed?
- MR. MASON: Mr. Dolan.
- MR. DOLAN: Is there a way we can make sure that
- 25 the--all the free press here puts out that these maps

- 1 are available to look at so if anybody has any
- 2 questions we don't have a fit?
- 3 MS. BAILEY: Absolutely. I think that's very
- 4 important.
- 5 MR. DOLAN: It's probably got to be two or three
- 6 times, not just once.
- 7 MS. BAILEY: It's also important to know, for
- 8 everyone in the room to know or be reminded of the fact
- 9 that you can give public comments right there on that
- 10 website. You can put down anything you want. All
- 11 those comments, we've had two so far, and the comments
- 12 are recorded. They're a part of the record and so, you
- 13 know, bring it own. We're recording them. And if you
- think it will be helpful I am more than happy to send
- out another press release tomorrow to remind everyone
- 16 that that information is out there and that tool is out
- 17 there.
- 18 MR. MASON: Yeah, Lynn, if you would.
- 19 MS. BAILEY: Sure.
- MR. MASON: Wayne or Pete.
- 21 MR. BROWN: Nothing.
- MR. MASON: Committee members.
- MR. MURPHY: The next meeting, Mr. Chairman.
- MR. MASON: We need--
- MR. MURPHY: Before we go there, if it's okay,

- 1 considering the fact that this information will be made
- 2 available prior to our coming to the next meeting,
- 3 considering the fact also that we've narrowed it down
- 4 to two meetings--
- 5 MR. MASON: Two maps.
- 6 MR. MURPHY: --two maps, I'd like to move, Mr.
- 7 Chairman, that the next meeting we be prepared to vote
- 8 for either map.
- 9 MR. DOLAN: I'm with you. Second.
- 10 MR. MASON: We've got a motion and a second. Is
- 11 there any discussion in reference to that? Mr.
- 12 Brigham.
- MR. BRIGHAM: Mr. Chairman, if we're going to have
- 14 technical corrections, I think we ought to have the
- 15 benefit of the whole committee listening to each of
- 16 us--the input of any technical corrections. If there's
- 17 no technical corrections, I would be more inclined to
- 18 support that—maybe support that motion. But without
- 19 knowing whether or not there's going to be technical
- 20 corrections, I don't think that we ought to limit
- 21 ourselves to any maps at this point in time.
- MR. MASON: Now, we've got a motion on the table.
- 23 Are you making a substitute motion?
- MR. BRIGHAM: No, I'm not making a substitute
- 25 motion. I'm going to vote against the motion because I

- 1 don't know whether there's going to be any technical
- 2 corrections.
- 3 MR. MASON: Okay. Senator Davis, did you have--
- 4 no. So we've got a motion on the table. Is there any
- 5 further discussion? Okay. By a show of hands in vote
- of approval for the meeting--we did get a motion and a
- 7 second, right?
- 8 MR. PADGETT: Uh-huh.
- 9 MR. MASON: We'll go ahead and vote on that in
- 10 terms of when we meet at our next meeting be prepared
- 11 at some point in that meeting to vote on the two maps
- 12 that we've discussed. All in favor raise your hand.
- One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. All opposed,
- 14 for the record. And all those that abstained or don't
- 15 care or whatever it may be. Okay. So that passes and
- 16 that's what we'll be prepared to do at that particular
- 17 time. With no other business to come before this
- 18 committee--
- MR. BRIGHAM: What about a date?
- MR. MASON: Oh, yeah. I'm ready to get out of
- 21 here. A date. Do we have a calendar to pull up? No.
- 22 We've got calendars in our books. I'm--I'm waiting on
- 23 a--Linda, is there any time frame that you're not
- 24 available?
- 25 MS. MEGGERS: I cannot be here the week of

- 1 Thanksgiving. If at all possible I would love to be
- 2 able to meet some time next week.
- 3 MR. MASON: Okay. So let's look at next week.
- 4 And under tab A I think there's--isn't it tab A?
- 5 MS. MEGGERS: Yes.
- 6 MR. MASON: There's a map--there's a calendar.
- 7 MS. MEGGERS: Well, we put it on your screens in
- 8 front of you.
- 9 MR. MASON: You've got it on the screen, how about
- 10 that.
- MS. BAILEY: We know that the 15th, is that not
- 12 regular commission, Board of Education meeting day on
- 13 the 15th?
- 14 MR. MASON: That is correct. That is correct.
- MR. DOLAN: Wednesday, the 16th.
- MR. MASON: I'm hearing Wednesday the 16th. Am I
- 17 getting some opposition to that?
- 18 MR. PADGETT: I'm out of town.
- MR. MASON: How about the 17th?
- 20 MR. LOCKETT: I'm out.
- 21 MR. SMITH: He's going to Dublin.
- MR. LOCKETT: I'll be in Dublin, too.
- MR. MASON: All of next week?
- MR. LOCKETT: No. The 17th and 18th.
- MR. MASON: So the week--the 21st and 22nd, you're

- 1 not available, is what you're saying, Linda?
- 2 MS. MEGGERS: No, I cannot be here the week of
- 3 Thanksqiving.
- 4 MR. MURPHY: The week of the 28th.
- 5 MR. MASON: Week of the 28th. 28th, now that's a
- 6 committee day but it doesn't affect the evening.
- 7 MR. SMITH: Can we meet at 4:00?
- 8 MR. DOLAN: 6:00.
- 9 MR. MASON: I'm hearing 4:00; I'm hearing 6:00. I
- 10 mean we can vote on it. It doesn't--
- 11 MR. LOCKETT: 6:00 is fine.
- MR. SMITH: I'd rather do 4:00.
- MS. BAILEY: Are we talking about Monday the 28th?
- MR. MASON: Yes. Is--do you know if this is
- 15 available, Jack?
- MR. PADGETT: I'm sure it probably is. I don't
- 17 know of anything that would be in here.
- 18 MR. MASON: Okay. So we're looking at-
- MR. DOLAN: There will be nothing here at 6:00.
- 20 MR. MASON: Yes. Mr. Howard.
- MR. HOWARD: I would suggest we--with respect to
- 22 the ones that are not here, that we pick two dates.
- MR. DOLAN: If you're not here you get what you
- 24 get.
- MR. DAVIS: I think we should submit a date today

- 1 and move forward.
- 2 MR. DOLAN: I do too.
- 3 MR. MASON: Now, we're hearing a number of
- 4 different things. In my mind, I do think--
- 5 MR. DAVIS: Mr. Chairman, I move that we select
- 6 November the 28th as the date of our next scheduled
- 7 meeting.
- 8 MR. MASON: We've got a motion on the table. Is
- 9 there a second?
- 10 MR. SMITH: Second.
- MR. MASON: All right. The 28th. Did we
- 12 determine a time?
- 13 MR. DOLAN: 6:00.
- 14 MR. SMITH: 4:00.
- 15 MR. LOCKETT: 5:00.
- MR. PADGETT: A matter of concern, of course, the
- 17 cost of us being here this evening. We have to have
- 18 staff here, where if we meet at four o'clock, it would
- 19 be much more convenient. We don't have to have extra
- 20 staff here.
- 21 MR. MASON: That's an important consideration.
- MR. SMITH: We could say 4:00 and you could always
- 23 start a little bit later, you know.
- MR. MASON: How about somewhere in between there?
- 25 Is 5:00 possible?

- 1 MR. PADGETT: Well, 5:00. I mean normally
- 2 everybody is out of here by 6:00 and I think 4:00 is--
- 3 MR. MASON: 4:00. Okay. So you've got a motion
- 4 on the table. Do you want to amend it to four o'clock?
- 5 MR. DAVIS: I'd like to do that. I'd like to
- 6 amend my current--
- 7 MR. MURPHY: Just a minute, just a minute, Mr.
- 8 Chairman. It is the Monday after Thanksqiving, Mr.
- 9 Businessman.
- MR. MASON: Is that a problem for somebody?
- 11 MS. BAILEY: I will actually be traveling that
- 12 day, but I will be back Tuesday. I can make
- arrangements beforehand and do the things that I
- 14 provide. But I will not be here on Monday.
- MR. PADGETT: I don't see any difference between
- 16 Monday and Tuesday.
- MR. MASON: So we've got--
- 18 MR. DAVIS: Substitute motion on the floor.
- MR. MASON: No. Do you want to amend your
- 20 motion--
- 21 MR. DAVIS: I can make a substitute motion, Mr.
- 22 Chairman.
- MR. MASON: Well, you can amend your motion.
- MR. DAVIS: I know I could.
- MR. MASON: Oh, you're just going to substitute

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1	it. Well, you're the maker of the motion. Are you
2	going to substitute your own motion?
3	MR. DAVIS: I will. And as such I'd like to move
4	that we meet on November the 29th at a certain time,
5	4:00 p.m.
6	MR. SMITH: Second.
7	MR. MASON: Just for clarity, as I'm looking at
8	legal over here. I just want to make sure we're clear.
9	He was the maker and he did a substitute motion. I
10	mean so we gotsimply, he could amend it and certainly
11	be in the right.
12	MR. SMITH: I'll make a motion.
13	MR. MASON: Or someone else can offer.
14	MR. SMITH: I'll make a motion and he can second
15	it.
16	MR. MASON: Okay. So we've got a substitute
17	motion then for the 29th at 4:00. And there's a
18	second. Is there any further discussion? Hearing
19	none, committee members your vote by raising of hands
20	if you're in favor. Yes. Okay, it's unanimous. No
21	further business to come before this committee. We
22	stand adjourned.
23	[Meeting adjourns at 7:43 p.m.]
24	//
25	

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1	CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER		
2	I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript		
3	consisting of pages numbered 3 through 68 is a true and correct		
4	transcript of the proceeding held before me; that said hearing		
5	was reported by the method of Stenomask.		
6	I further certify that I am not kin or counsel to the		
7	parties in the case, am not in the regular employ of counsel or		
8	said parties, nor am I otherwise interested in the result of		
9	said case.		
10	This the 21st day of November, 2011.		
11			
12	<del></del>		
13	GINA L. SMITH, CCR, CVR		
14	CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER		
15	GEORGIA CERTIFICATE # B-2151		
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